BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

Sacramento, CA
December 5, 2018

BOARD OF FORESTRY MEMBERS:

Present:

J. Keith Gilless, Chairman
Mark Andre, Vice Chair
Rich Wade
Chris Chase

Darcey Wheeles
Sue Husari
Mike Jani

Absent:

Marc Los Huertos
Katie Delbar

BOARD STAFF:

Matthew Dias, Executive Officer
Dan Stapleton, Licensing Officer
Jeff Slaton, Board Counsel
Edith Hannigan, Land Use Planning Program Manager
Conner Pompa, Forestry Assistant II

Laura Alarcon-Stalians, AGPA
Linda Cano, Executive Assistant
Brandi Goss, Environmental Scientist
Katie Harrell, AGPA,
Joint Institute for Wood Products Innovation

DEPARTMENTAL STAFF:

Ken Pimlott, Director
Janet Barentson, Chief Deputy Director
Helge Eng, Deputy Director - Resource Management
Matthew Reischman, Assistant Deputy Director
Dennis Hall, Assistant Deputy Director - Forest Practice

Eric Huff, Staff Chief - Forest Practice Program
Bill Solinski, Forester III - THP Administration
Stewart McMorrow, Deputy Chief Forestry Assistance Programs
Jim Robbins, Forestry Assistant Specialist
Thom Porter, Southern Region Chief Practice

NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY:

Russ Henley, Assistant Secretary of Forest Resources Management
Announcement of Actions Taken in Executive Session
Board Counsel reported on the following matters:

The Board discussed the items on the agenda:

- The Board adopted the Proposed Decision for Civil Penalty CP-17-17 Rickard with minor modifications.

Consent Calendar items

12-18-01 Chairman Gilless moved to accept the items on the Consent Calendar. Member Jani seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote

- Wade    Aye
- Husari  Aye
- Jani    Aye
- Wheeler Aye
- Andre   Aye
- Chase   Aye
- Gilless Aye

The motion carried with two members absent

MONTHLY BOARD REPORTS

Report of the Chairman, Dr. Keith Gilless
Chairman Gilless reported on the following matters:

Expressed his sympathies to all those affected by the devastation of the Woolsey and Camp Fires. He also thanked public safety personnel, fire service personnel, and all those who assisted during the wildfires and continue to help in the aftermath. He acknowledged and expressed his sympathy on the passing of former President George H.W. Bush.

Report of the Director, Ken Pimlott
Director Pimlott reported on the following matters:

Fire Statistics:
- Over 1.6 million acres burned on private, State Responsibility Area and Federal lands
  - Carr/Mendocino Complex Fire
  - Hirz/Delta Fire
  - Fall Fire Siege – Woolsey/Camp Fire
- Deadliest – Camp Fire (85 people)
- Most Destructive – Camp Fire (18,804 structures) 90-95% of the town was impacted.
- Largest – Mendocino Complex (459,123 acres)
• Fire season is becoming year around and is requiring more effort. Conditions are becoming more extreme, with higher temperatures and lower humidity for longer periods of time.
• CAL FIRE is currently talking with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to see if they are going to evaluate the fire as a case study. CAL FIRE wants to know what they can learn from this fire that they don't already know.
• There is continued work on the Helicopter Procurement.

Succession:
• Thom Porter – Strategic Planning Position, Chief
• Dan Johnson was appointed CAL FIRE Southern Region Chief (12/1)
• Nancy Koerperich was appointed Southern Region Assistant Chief (12/1)
• Scott Upton retired, 12/1
• Greg Mcfadden, retired 12/1
• Mike Bradley was appointed CAL FIRE Northern Region Chief (12/1)
• George Morris was appointed CAL FIRE Northern Region Assistant Chief (12/1)
• Mike Hebrard was appointed CAL FIRE Northern Region Assistant Chief (12/1)
• Derek Witmer, retired
• Jake Hess was appointed Santa Clara Unit Chief (11/1)
• Brian Estes – Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit Chief (Acting)
• Brett Govea – Shasta-Trinity Unit Chief (Acting)

Ventura Training Center:
• 20 Participants began October 22, 2018, they will be receiving full CAL FIRE Fire Fighter Basics training. When they’ve completed the training, they will be doing fuels treatment and community projects in Ventura County

Strategic Plan:
• The Final draft of the Strategic Plan has been completed

Forest Health:
• The Director has had discussions with Transition Team so that there is a smooth transition for the new administration.

Fuels Treatment Goals and Statistics:
• Prescribed Fire 8,904
• Fuel Reduction 2,366
• D-Space Inspections 91,296
• CAL FIRE is in the hiring process for 6 fuels crews that will be deployed across the state to do fuels treatment projects. There is a great candidate pool to choose from, with over 300 applicants. They will be led by Forestry Assistants and Fire Captains.

Closing Comments:
• Director Pimlott announced that the December Board of Forestry meeting would be his last report to the Board. He has retired as of December 31, 2018. He gave a brief history with
the Department and the Board. He thanked the Board members for their commitment and service to the State of California.

Board members expressed their gratitude and well wishes to Director Pimlott and presented him with a plaque for his leadership and service.

**Report of Executive Officer, Matt Dias:**

Executive Officer Dias reported on the following matters:

- Briefly shared a story regarding Board Staff’s plans to spread the holiday spirit by handing out care packages to the less fortunate in the downtown area. He acknowledged and thanked the individuals who thoughtfully hand knitted 300 hats to contribute to the Board staff’s endeavors.
- Discussed Committee priorities and made recommendations regarding which committee should receive individual priorities for discussion. A Draft Priorities list will be provided at the January 2019 Board of Forestry meeting.
- Brandi Goss, Environmental Scientist provided an update on the Draft Annual Report for the 2018 calendar year. The Board was encouraged to review the report and submit any changes or edits to Ms. Goss or Executive Officer Matt Dias. The revised Draft Annual Report will be presented at the January 23, 2019 meeting.
- Provided an update on the use of CAL TREES forms for the submission of plans, exemptions, and emergency notices.
- The Board considered PFEC recommendations on the four requests from the Petition for Administrative Rulemaking to Amend the Program for Licensing, Certification, and Discipline of Certified Rangeland Managers - Submitted by Latham & Watkins (dated October 16, 2017) on behalf of Rancho Guejito.

12-18-02 Chair Gilless moved to accept PFEC recommendations to deny the four requests from the Petition for Administrative Rulemaking to Amend the Program for Licensing, Certification, and Discipline of Certified Rangeland Managers - Submitted by Latham & Watkins (dated October 16, 2017) on behalf of Rancho Guejito. Member Husari seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote**

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The motion carried with two members absent

**Report of the Standing Committees:**

**Joint Management and Forest Practice Committee Meeting - Chairs Rich Wade and Mark Andre**

Committee Chairs Wade and Andre reported on the following matters:
• Provided an update on reporting to Legislature on Exemptions and Emergency Notices (PRC § 4589).
• Discussed potential amendments to the Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan.
• Discussed potential amendments to 14 CCR § 1038 et. seq. pursuant to PRC § 4584 et.seq.

Resource Protection Committee - Chair Sue Husari
Committee Chair Husari reported on the following matters:

• Safety Element Reviews
  a. County of Sonoma
  b. City of Yountville
• Reviewed Existing Board Fire Protection Policies (commencing with Policy 0340).

Report of Board’s Advisory Committees:

Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC)
Edith Hannigan reported on the following matters:

• Provided an update on the November 15, 2018 Meeting.
• Board considered the California Rangeland Conservation Coalition Request for Board and RMAC Support.

  12-18-03 Chair Gilless moved that the Board of Forestry become a California Rangeland Conservation Coalition signatory to the Resolution and indicated to the Range Management Advisory Committee that the Committee is free to separately become a signatory to the Resolution. Member Chase seconded the motion.

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SPECIAL BOARD HEARINGS/REPORTS

Presentation: Forestry Challenge: 2018 “Year in Review” and presentation from Del Oro High School and Diane Dealey Neill.
Initial Hearing: State Forest Regulations, 2018 (Amendments to 14 CCR §§ 1400.5 through 1521, and Adoption of 14 §§ 1401.1 and 1401.2). The purposes of the proposed action include: 1) to adopt regulations which allow CAL FIRE to collect fees for overnight camping and use of designated group camping areas and to establish the schedule for these fees; and 2) to improve the clarity of existing regulations related to state forests.

- Chair Gilless closed the Hearing.

12-18-04 Chair Gilless moved to approve the State Forest Regulations, 2018 (Amendments to 14 CCR §§ 1400.5 through 1521). Member Andre seconded the motion.

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12-18-05 Chair Gilless moved to adopt the Rule Text for State Forest Regulations, 2018 (Amendments to 14 CCR §§ 1400.5 through 1521, and Adoption of 14 §§ 1401.1 and 1401.2). Member Wade seconded the motion.

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Public Comment

CONCLUSION

Public Forum

Adjournment
Respectfully submitted,                              ATTEST:

Matthew Dias                           Keith Gilless
Executive Officer                     Chair